

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MANAMA 00760 031551Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----031554Z 044716 /41

P 031325Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN
TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY 4456
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA SAUDI ARABIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT KUWAIT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON UK PRIORITY

S E C R E T MANAMA 760

EXDIS

FROM AMBASSADOR MAESTRONE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS : MASS, KU, UR
SUBJECT : SOVIET ARMS SALES TO KUWAIT

REF : (A) STATE 073696 (B) STATE 072305 (C) KUWAIT 1695
(D) KUWAIT 1592

1. SINCE KUWAIT DEFMIN SHAIKH SA'AD AL ABDULLA STATED CONTRACT HAD BEEN SIGNED AND SINCE DELIVERY OF MISSILES OBVIOUSLY WILL NOT TAKE PLACE WITHIN NEAR FUTURE, I WOULD PREFER TO RAISE THIS MATTER (REF B) WITH GOK AFTER MY RETURN TO KUWAIT ON APRIL 10. I WOULD LIKE TO TOUCH BASE WITH SHAIKH SA'AD FIRST AS A COURTESY (REF C) BEFORE TAKING UP THIS QUESTION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SABDH AL-AHMAD, SINCE LATTER IS THE APPROPRIATE MINISTER WITH WHOM TO TAKE UP WHAT IS REALLY A POLICY MATTER. HOWEVER, IF SHAIKH SA'AD IS AWAY, I WOULD HAVE TO DISPENSE WITH THAT COURTESY.

2. I DO NOT HOLD THE SAME CONCERN AS THE DEPT. ON THE QUESTION OF A COORDINATED APPROACH WITH THE UK WHOSE MILITARY
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RELATIONSHIP WITH THE GOK IS CLOSER THAT OURS, BUT DEFER TO THE DEPT'S JUDGMENT IN THIS MATTER. IF FCO DECIDES TO MAKE INDEPENDENT APPROACH TO GOK, I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL, SINCE PREVIOUS BRITISH LINE DURING BORDER FLAREUPS WITH IRAQIS WAS A CAUTIONARY ONE. IT WOULD ALSO AVOID MAKING IT APPEAR THAT US IS TRYING TO USE ITS RELATIVELY NEW MILITARY SALES RELATIONSHIP WITH KUWAIT AS A LEVER TO INFLUENCE GOK POLICY.

WHETHER THE BRITISH JOIN OR NOT, I FEEL THAT THE DEMARCHE
OUTLINED IN PARA 2 OF REF B IS WORTH MAKING AND APPRECIATE
THE FACT THAT THE DEPT SHARES MY CONCERN IN THIS MATTER.
CLUVERIUS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMS, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Format: TEL
From: MANAMA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770493/aaaaddoi.tel
Line Count: 66
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1c4f01ab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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